

Message Text

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ACTION EB-03

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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

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LIMDIS

FOR EB/TT/AV- STYLES

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, PE

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - DISPUTE WITH PERU A AMBASSADOR'S MEETING
WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: LIMA 3128

1. SHORTLY AFTER NOON TODAY AMBASSADOR CALLED ON FOREIGN
OFFICE SECRETARY GENERAL GARCIA BEDOYA, LATER JOINED BY
FOREIGN MINISTER DE LA FLOR, TO PRESENT FINAL BRANIFF OFFER
DESCRIBED REFTEL. IN INITIAL CONVERSATION WITH GARCIA
BEDOYA, AMBASSADOR REVIEWED YESTERDAY'S CONVERSATION WITH
AMBASSADOR MARCHAND WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO EXAMPLES OF
MISINFORMATION RECEIVED BY DE LA FLOR REGARDING STATE OF
PLAY OF NEGOTIATIONS AND IDENTITY AND WHEREABOUTS OF
SENIOR BRANIFF NEGOTIATOR. AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED THIS
POINT TO SECGEN AND LATER TO FONMIN AS ONE OF SEVERAL
REASONS WHY HE HAD VOLUNTEERED PERSONALLY TO PRESENT
FINAL BRANIFF OFFER AT HIGHEST LEVELS FOREIGN MINISTRY.
OTHER REASONS INCLUDED FOREIGN MINISTER'S ROLE AS GOP OVERALL
COORDINATOR OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS; SERIOUSNESS OF EMPASSE
THAT HAD DEVELOPED; DESIRE TO FORESTALL IMPENDING NEXT STEP
OF 213 ORDER; AND URGENT NEED FELT BY BRANIFF FOR DEFINI-
TION OF SITUATION IN ORDER TO MEET IMPENDING DEADLINE TO
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FILE NEW ROUTES AND FREQUENCIES TO CURTAIL LOSSES CAUSED BY

ARBITRARY AND RESTRICTIVE GOP OPERATING PERMIT AND TO
HANDLE INCREASED SUMMER TOURIST TRAFFIC EXPECTED TO BEGIN
SOON.

2. IN INITIAL CONVERSATION SECGEN DEMURRED ABOUT POSSIBILITY MODIFYING 24-FREQUENCY AEROPERU OFFER AND EXPRESSED SPECIAL CONCERN ABOUT NUMBER OF FREQUENCIES, DIRECT AND INDIRECT, TO B.A. INCLUDED IN BRANIFF PROPOSAL. FONMIN'S INITIAL REACTION WAS TO SAY THAT HE WOULD ACT AS INTER-MEDIARY PASSING BRANIFF OFFER ALONG TO AEROPERU NEGOTIATING TEAM. AFTER FURTHER CONVERSATION AND A CAREFUL READING OF THE OFFER, HOWEVER, DE LA FLOR CAME TO APPRECIATE ITS IMPORTANCE AND FINALITY AND CONCLUDED, AS HE CAREFULLY FOLDED UP AND PLACED THE ONE-PAGE DOCUMENT IN HIS POCKET, THAT HIS NEXT STEP WAS TO REQUEST AN IMMEDIATE AUDIENCE WITH THE PRIME MINISTER TO TAKE IT UP WITH HIM.

3. COMMENT: IT IS OBVIOUS THAT BOTH MEN HAD READ WITH CARE THE LETTER THAT BRANIFF'S REPRESENTATIVE DE MURIAS HAD HANDED TO AEROPERU CHIEF SOTO VERA TOWARD THE END OF YESTERDAY'S NEGOTIATING SESSION AND ALSO HAD BEEN BRIEFED ON YESTERDAY'S CONVERSATION BETWEEN AMBASSADOR AND MARCHAND. IT ALSO APPEARS LIKELY THAT COPIES OF THAT LETTER WHICH WE DELIVERED TO OFFICES OF PRIME MINISTER AND AIR MINISTER YESTERDAY EVENING HAD BEEN SUBJECT OF SOME INTER-MINISTERIAL ATTENTION. WE CANNOT FORETELL THE OUTCOME BUT THE BALL IS IN GOP'S COURT AND MATCH POINT SEEMS NEAR.

DEAN

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